

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|  |   |                                |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| In re application of: Gregory B. Venema                        | ) | Examiner: Janell Combs Morillo |
| Serial No.: 10/706,846   | ) | Group Art Unit: 1742           |
| Confirmation No.: 6084   | ) | Atty. Docket No.: 03-1257      |
| Filed: November 12, 2003                                       | ) |                                |
| For : Method of Manufacturing Near-Net Shaped<br>Alloy Product |   |                                |

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

November 20, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Action dated September 20, 2006, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments and remarks be entered as record in the above-identified application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.